Mountain Weather Forecast

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 06:00 on Thursday 31 Mar 2022 until 23:59 on Friday 01 Apr 2022

Forecast Issued on Thursday 31 Mar 2022 at 04:10

Confidence: High for cold and showery start, medium for detail and timing of rain spreading from the northwest later Sunday, then low for developments thereafter.

Headline for Thursday 31 Mar 2022: Snow showers and bitterly cold at height.

Mountain weather hazards on Thursday 31 Mar 2022

Blizzards Low Likelihood	**Heavy persistent snow** No Likelihood	**Storm force winds** No Likelihood
Gales No Likelihood	**Severe chill effect** Medium Likelihood	**Poor visibility** Low Likelihood
Thunderstorms Low Likelihood	**Heavy persistent rain** No Likelihood	**Strong sunlight** Low Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m					
Time					
06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Light snow showers (night)	Light snow showers	Heavy snow showers	Heavy snow showers	Light snow showers	Partly cloudy (night)
Precipitation probability					
40%	40%	60%	60%	30%	10%

Forecast for Thursday 31 Mar 2022

Weather: Sunny spells and snow showers throughout, most frequent and heavier through the afternoon, bringing the risk of hail and thunder for a time. Showers dwindling through the evening.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 85% for any given time, but much lower for extended clear spells given the showery nature of the flow.

Low cloud and visibility: Good or very good, becoming moderate to very poor in snow showers, only a few metres within cloud with bases lowering 450-600m as showers push through.

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Forecast for Thursday 31 Mar 2022

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph) Wind Direction (blowing from)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	32/38 NE	25/32 NE	24/32 N	27/35 N	25/31 N	29/35 N	28/34 N
600	21/26 NE	21/28 NE	23/30 N	23/32 N	18/25 N	19/28 N	19/28 N
300	4/19 NE	10/25 NE	12/26 N	10/26 N	8/22 N	6/22 N	9/23 N
Valley	11/27 NE	12/27 NE	12/25 N	12/25 N	10/24 N	11/27 N	13/27 N

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	-6/-16	-5/-14	-3/-11	-2/-10	-3/-11	-4/-14	-5/-14
600	-4/-12	-2/-10	-0/-8	0/-6	-1/-8	-2/-10	-3/-11
300	-1/-3	1/-3	3/-1	4/0	1/-2	-0/-3	-1/-5
Valley	2/-3	4/-0	6/2	6/2	4/0	3/-2	2/-3
Freezing Level*	100m	200m	300m	300m	300m	200m	100m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Meteorologist's View

Temporary blizzard conditions across higher peaks in heavier showers.

Forecast for Friday 01 Apr 2022

Weather: Mainly dry and occasionally bright through the morning and early afternoon. Band of showery snow, falling as rain at lower, perhaps mid-levels, crossing from the north during the late afternoon and evening.

Maximum wind: North mean 20-25mph at first with gusts reaching 35mph, soon easing.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 95% plus, becoming 70% later in the day.

Low cloud and visibility: Good or very good, becoming moderate to very poor in later showers, only a few metres within cloud with bases occasionally lowering 450-600m in later showers.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Minus 3 Celsius increasing plus 7 Celsius during the afternoon
At 800m: Minus 4 Celsius
Freezing level: Around 400m by day

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Mountain Weather Forecast

Ground Conditions Supplement

Wednesday 30 March. Helvellyn summit at 22:57. All change overnight as a cold northerly airmass brings snow and subzero temperatures to the fells once again. Despite being a relatively cosmetic dusting of new snow, the high fells feel very different in character compared to the last couple of weeks of sunshine and warm temperatures. The snowline this morning started at roughly 500m and depth increases with height. Over the summit plateau, the average depth of snow was around one to two inches, however, boot deep drifts were accumulating in many dips and hollows. Rime ice and verglas were also present on exposed rock and paths were completely covered in snow in some places making them difficult to follow in poor visibility. Striding and Swirral edge are in winter condition being a mixture of snow and exposed rock. Further snow showers continued into the afternoon down to low levels today and similar conditions are forecast tomorrow with terrain widely frozen from the valleys upwards. Anyone heading out into the fells tomorrow should expect more snow and ice than described here and be prepared for winter conditions. An ice axe and crampons are recommended for anyone planning routes on steep terrain although microspikes may be more useful generally in the current conditions. The summit windchill (feels-like) temperature was around -12°C today and anyone dressed for the conditions that we experienced last week would get very cold very quickly. Full winter clothing (warm and waterproof) including hats and gloves and equipment including a map, compass, and headtorch (despite the longer days) are all essential. Goggles are also recommended for navigating in windy conditions. Temperature: minus 3.2C. Maximum wind speed 22.2mph. Wind chill: minus 12.2C. Average wind speed: 20.1mph

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